THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). National Programme for central of AIDS, Leprosy, Blindness and Population growth are being carried out in the States of Uttar Pradesh and Madhya Pradesh with World Bank assistance.

An Externally Funded Project Cell has been set up in the Ministry to monitor the effective implementation of these Projects.

[English]

Sharing of Cauvery Water

1235. SHRI S.D.N.R. WADIYAR : Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have recently taken decision on sharing of Cauvery water by Karnataka and Tamil Nadu;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the reaction of those State Governments thereto?

THE MINISTER OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JANESHWAR MISHRA) : (a) to (c). To resolve the Cauvery Water Dispute, the Central Governmet consititued Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal on 2nd June, 1990. The Tribunal passed an Interim Awade on 25.6.91 directing the Karnataka Government to ensure inflows of 205 Thousand million Cubic feet (TMC ft.) of water into Mettur reservoir of Tamil Nadu for each water year (June to May) with monthly and weekly stipulations. 6 TMC ft. of water for Karaikal region of the Union Territory of Pondicherry will be delivered by the State of Tamil Nadu in a regulated manner. Further, the State of Karnataka shall not increase its area under irrigation by the waters of river Cauvery beyond the existing 11.2 lakh acres.

So far, the Tribunal has conducted 90 hearings and the basin States are participating in the proceedings of the Tribunal.

[Translation]

Health Care

1236. SHRI HARIVANSH SAHAI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) the per capita amount spent on medicines in the rural areas of Uttar Pradesh;

(b) whether there is any proposal to increase this limit; and

(c) the total expenditure borne by the Governmnent as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Health being a State subject, medicines are procured and supplied by State Governments from their own resources. However, as per information available in National Accounts Statistics, per capita Government expenditure in U.P. on health is Rs. 42 for the year 1992-93. In addition to that drugs required for implementing major National Health Programmes are supplied as per approved norms by the Central Government.

(b) and (c). Information is being collected from State Government.

[English]

One Rank One Pension

1237. PROF. RAM NAIK : Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state :

(a) the policy of the Government on one rank one pension issue; and

(b) the time by which it is likely to be implemented?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI N.V.N. SOMU) : (a) and (b). Ex-Servicemen's demand for One Rank One Pension was examined by a High Level Empowered Committee (HLEC). The acceptance of the principle of One Rank One Pension was not found feasible for a variety of reasons. However, a scheme of One Time Increase in pension to the Armed Forces pensioners who retired before 1.1.1996 has been sanctioned w.e.f. 1.1.1992 in pursuance of the unanimous recommendations of the High Level Empowered Committee.

Road Sector as Industry

1238. SHRI MULLAPPALLY RAMACHANDRAN : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state :

(a) whether the road sector has been declared as 'Industry'; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The activities connected with construction, maintenance and development of roads are to be treated as 'Industrial Concern' under para 2 (c) (XVII) of the Industrial Development Bank of India Act 1964 and under para 2 (c) (XVI) of the Industrial Finance Corporation Act 1948 so as to facilitate loan from lending institutions to private/public sector companies to take up toll-based highway projects.

Infectious Diseases

1239. SHRI SANAT KUMAR MANDAL : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether antibiotics and other life saving drugs used against many diseases are rapidly losing their

effectiveness as bacteria and other microbes develop resistance to them; and

(b) if so, the effective measures being taken to fight the ten biggest killer infectious diseases in the country to ensure that its socio-economic development is not crippled by the burden of these diseases?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) Drug resistance in most drugs used in the treatment of infectious diseases is attributed to indiscrimimnate use of antibiotics.

(b) In the National Programmes on Control on diseases proper combination of drugs, dosage/duration of treatment are prescribed for effective control of the major communicable diseases.

Mother and Child Care Facilities

1240. SHRI KRISHAN LAL SHARMA : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the Government have shifted from demographic targets to mother and child care facilities;

(b) whether this shift has brought about any change in the attitude of those opposed to family planning on grounds of orthodoxy and rigidity in views; and

(c) if so, the what extent?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (SHRI SALEEM IQBAL SHERVANI) : (a) to (c). The system of setting contraceptive targets from the top has been replaced by a system of decentralised planning at the Primary Health Centre level. The Primary Health Centre level planning will take into account the needs of the community and is expected to lead to improvement in quality of services as well as greater acceptance by the people.

Cochin Port Containers Strike

1241. SHRI KODIKUNNIL SURESH : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government are aware of Cochin Port containers strike;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) the reaction of the Government thereto?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The blockade of containers moving to and from Cochin Port with effect from 25th June, 1996 by Cochin Port Labour Union was to protest against non-usage of private labour pools by a private Container Freight Station viz. Asian Terminals. Other trade unions have also objected to the private CFS engaging outside workers to work in the Container Freight Station.

(c) Consequent to a meeting held by the Port Trust on 26.6.96 with the representatives of all concerned unions, steamer agents, etc., the blockade has been lifted.

[Translation]

Linking of Roads

1242. SHRI JAI PRAKASH AGARWAL : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Union Government propose to link the dense populated rural areas of National Capital Territory of Delhi with National Highways;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the time by which it is likely to be taken up for implementation; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) to (c). Constitutionally, the Government of India is responsible for maintenance and development of National Highways in the country. All roads other than National Highways are primarily the responsibility of the State Government concerned. The proposed roads are State roads and reponsibility lies with the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi.

[English]

Modernisation of Jetties

1243. SHRI RAMESH CHENNITHALA : Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any centrally sponsored scheme for the modernisation of jetties;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Kerala Government has implemented this scheme from 1991;

(d) whether the Union Government had given 50 percent of the total amount spent; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI T.G. VENKATRAMAN) : (a) and (b). Yes, Sir. Under this scheme Government of India provides loan assistance to State Governments for implementation of various IWT Schemes including Modernisation of Jetties

(c) The scheme of the Kerala Government for modernisation of 55 passenger jetties was sanctioned by the Government of India in January, 1993. As per the latest progress report furnished by the State Government of Kerala, out of the 55 jetties sanctioned for modernisation, 37 "C" type and 3 "B" type jetties have been completed so far